

1 4. (Amended) The device as set forth in claim 1 further
2 comprising a pressure control means, which connects a cuff chamber defined by
3 said cuff to the atmosphere when the pressure therein exceeds a predefined
4 overpressure.

1 5. (Amended) The device as set forth in claim 4, wherein said
2 pressure control means comprises an outlet valve forming an overpressure outlet for
3 said cuff, said overpressure outlet being open, except when said pressure generator
4 pressurizes said cuff.

1 6. (Amended) The device as set forth in claim 4, wherein said
2 pressure control means comprises a restrictor in a conduit between said pressure
3 generator and said cuff, and an outlet valve with a stopper, which, in a first
4 position, releases an outlet to the atmosphere, and, in a second position, blocks said
5 outlet, said stopper assuming these positions as a function of the difference in
6 pressure between an inlet and an outlet of said restrictor.

1 7. (Amended) The device as set forth in claim 1 further
2 comprising a controller which switches said pressure generator ON/OFF, thereby
3 pressurizing said cuff with a defined or definable pressure amplitude and a defined
4 or definable repetition frequency.

1 8. (Amended) The device as set forth in claim 7, wherein said
2 controller is designed to vary said pressure amplitude and/or repetition frequency.

1 9. (Twice Amended) The device as set forth in claim 1, wherein
2 a measured overpressure of said cuff, compared to atmospheric pressure, ranges
3 between 20 mm Hg and 100 mm Hg.

1 10. (Amended) The device as set forth in claim 1, wherein said
2 cuff is pressurized 1 to 10 times per min.

1 11. (Amended) The device as set forth in claim 1, wherein, said cuff is
2 pressurized 1 to 15 times per 5 min.

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12. (Amended) The device as set forth in claim 1 further comprising means for uncoupling said pressure generator from said cuff.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Enclosures

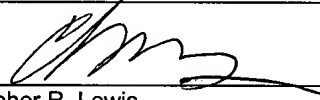
Dated: November 8, 2002

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